



Did you know? Any time you want to sell or pass out any non-packaged food or beverage items within the City of Beaumont, you must have both **a food handler certification** and **a temporary food permit** -- even if you're just giving it away for free!

This applies to anything that will be cooked or kept cold and to everyone from non-profits hosting crawfish or BBQ fundraisers to residents preparing plate lunches for the homeless. We do this to keep the community safe and healthy as we always want to err on the side of cautions with food preparation.

Here's what you need to do:

1. Apply for Your **Food Handler Certification**. Take the online course at Learn2serve.com. It is just \$7 and is valid for two years.
2. Once that's obtained, you can apply for a **Temporary Food Permit** either **in-person at Beaumont Public Health** or **digitally via our Online Permitting Center**.

To Do it Online:

1. Create an account on <https://cityworks.beaumonttexas.gov/OnlineApplications/template/login.aspx>
2. Once you're logged in, click "Create Application"
3. Select the Folder "Health" and Select "Temporary Event Permit." Click "Begin Application" in the bottom right. The standard fee is \$33, with a 50% discount for non-profits, youth or elderly. Anything with six or more vendors qualifies as a **"special event"** which would require a different type of application and costs \$220/day.

4. Fill out your event details. You'll need to provide the address, type of event, contact information, and payment.

Keep in mind, all permits must be applied for and purchased at least 7 days in advance of your event and submission of form does not automatically guarantee approval. You'll receive a confirmation from the Health Department when your permit has been issued.

For any questions, reach out the Environmental Health Department at 409-832-7463 for assistance.

Temporary Food Permit FAQ

Do I need a temporary food permit to sell unopened bags of chips, bottled water, or canned drinks?

No, you do not need a permit to sell or give away prepackaged foods.

I want to sell or give away hot dogs, BBQ, crawfish, plate lunches. Do I need a temporary permit?

Yes, you need a temporary permit anytime you want to sell or give away food that needs to be cooked or kept cold, even if it is for a fundraiser or good cause.

Can I prepare the food I want to sell at home?

No, everything must be in its original package, on ice at the time of your temporary event inspection to ensure proper handling and storage.

When do I need to apply for a temporary permit? When are the inspections?

Applicants must apply for their temporary permit at least a week before their event. Available times slots for inspection are between 7:30 and 4:30 PM Monday through Sunday.

I am running late for my inspection! Will I still receive my permit if I am late to set up at my event?

Environmental Health has a 15-minute grace period between inspection slots before we have to go to our next appointment. If you are not ready at the time you selected, you must wait until the next available time slot the inspector has available to receive your permit.

Do I really need a food handler certificate to be approved for my temporary event permit?

Yes, the State of Texas requires that at least one person has a Food Handler Certificate at the event. These are valid for two years and can be applied for online.

This seems like a lot of work! Why do I have to go through all the trouble to be able to do something good for the community?

Our priority is keeping the community safe and healthy. We will always err on the side of caution regarding food preparation.